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For almost 20 years, a quiet but ominous fear has haunted the corridors of the Central Intelligence Agency: Is there a spy in the house? Is there a mole? Is there an American official, somewhere in the upper echelons of the CIA, who is really a Soviet agent planted by its own spy network, the KGB? In the words of a CIA insider, "If there is a mole inside the CIA hierarchy, this means that every particle of our intelligence is suspect and possibly contaminated. It means the Soviets have detailed knowledge of our verification capability and can circumvent it. It changes the world power balance."

Three years ago, a widespread CIA search intensified for a mole who might conceivably be operating his own spy ring within the Agency. This followed a series of arrests of several former CIA employees who admitted having passed intelligence secrets to the Soviets. Many of these secrets concerned clandestine electronic and satellite surveillance systems the U.S. was using to monitor Russian strategic weapons developments. Loss of those secrets was termed by the CIA the most serious espionage disaster in 20 years.

Then, in late 1978, a CIA official who very secretly said "one of our boys" called Chesapeake Bay the body of John A. Paisley, Deputy Director of Strategic Research. At first, the CIA claimed "Paisley was a very capable analyst who on several matters was simply working on routine matters with a very slight information disappearance."

The cover-up unravelled. John Paisley had retained unlimited information on the Soviet Union. He was working on a secret report on Soviet capabilities. The CIA had a bill of materials for a bill of materials. The Agency continued to have been in the intelligence field for 20 years. Credible evidence existed to suspect

Some say John Paisley was a  
top Russian spy planted in the CIA.  
Some say he was both.  
Some say John Paisley was a brilliant  
CIA operative looking for a  
master Russian spy planted in the CIA.  
Was his "strange" suicide actually murder?

# THE SPY AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BAY

Investigative report by Richard Russell

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